100TH CONGRESS } SENATE { REPORT
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EMERGENCY ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE HOMELESS, 1988

JANUARY 29, 1987.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. STENNIS, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.J. Res. 102]

The Committee on Appropriations, to which was referred the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 102) making additional funds available by transfer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's [FEMA] emergency food and shelter program, reports the same to the Senate with amendments and with the recommendation that the joint resolution be passed, and submits the following explanation of its recommendations.

The purpose of this joint resolution is to provide $50,000,000 by transfer from FEMA's disaster relief appropriation to fund emergency food and shelter for the Nation's homeless. The Committee has recommended the rescission of an additional $7,475,000 in disaster relief funds because the resolution as passed by the House would increase outlays by $6,500,000 in fiscal year 1987 in violation of sections 302 and 311 of the Budget Act. This outlay increase is attributable to the fact that appropriated funds are spent more rapidly under the emergency food and shelter program than under the disaster relief program.

The funds recommended for the emergency food and shelter program are in addition to $70,000,000 previously provided for the program in the regular fiscal year 1987 appropriation, making a total of $120,000,000 available to meet the needs of the homeless. This support will be distributed to individual localities through a national board composed of representatives of the United Way of America, the Salvation Army, the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., the National Conference of Catholic Charities, the Council of Jewish Federations, Inc., and the American Red Cross. A representative of FEMA also serves on the Board. Total administrative costs cannot exceed 2 percent of the amount appropriated.

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The Committee notes that in excess of $200,000,000 is currently available under the disaster relief program including more than $100,000,000 initially provided in fiscal year 1986 and carried over into the current fiscal year. Consequently, the recommended transfer and rescission will not disrupt the program. If the disaster relief appropriation were to be exhausted because of major disasters, the fund could be replenished through supplemental appropriations.

The resolution, by providing an additional $50,000,000, will augment the ability of soup kitchens, food banks, and providers of emergency shelters to cope with the demands placed on them during this critical winter period. The Committee understands that the Congress will soon be considering the enactment of an authorization bill to deal more comprehensively with the problems of the homeless.

The Committee recognizes that to date $370,000,000 has been appropriated to the emergency food and shelter program, providing for about 65 million nights of shelter as well as an estimated 260 million meals. In the absence of a significant reworking of the current structure for providing this sort of assistance, the emergency food and shelter program is in the best position to distribute the recommended funds expeditiously.

Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program

DEFERRAL OF FUNDS

The Committee concurs with the House in voicing strong opposition to the proposed deferral of $28,559,000 of the fiscal year 1987 appropriation for the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program [TEFAP]. Such a deferral will cause widespread disruption of the program and force many States to discontinue providing needed surplus agricultural commodities to the hungry.

Congress has now officially received this deferral and, therefore, the Committee has included language overturning the deferral and expects the funds to be made available immediately.

BUDGETARY IMPACT OF JOINT RESOLUTION

PREPARED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
PURSUANT TO SEC. 308, PUBLIC LAW 93-344, AS AMENDED

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget authority	Outlays
H.J. Res. 102 as recommended by the committee	-7	-(*)
Projections of outlays associated with budget authority recommended in the joint resolution:		
1987		-(*)
1988		-7
1989		
1990		
1991 and future year		
Financial assistance to State and local governments for 1987 in the bill	50	50

The CBO current level before enactment of this measure shows the Committee to be $3.5 billion under its budget authority allocation and $1.8 billion over its outlay allocation under the fiscal year 1987 congressional budget resolution.

(*) Less than $500,000.

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